65:Landshut S-4 (no date)1950 M1 Middle East
Lebanon WC1

Only one large shop—the joint property of three Muslims and one Jew—was damaged.

There were only a few incidents during the months of fighting in Palestine. On one occasion alone were there casualties—when a bomb thrown at the school of the *Alliance Israélite Universelle* injured a few Jews.

When, during the operations in Galilee, large numbers of Arab refugees entered the country, and Israel forces occupied some territory in Southern Lebanon, Muslims in the Sidon area seized Jewish-owned buildings and installed refugees therein. After some days, however, the Government ordered the police to provide protection for the Jews and to restore the buildings to their owners. Jews were not allowed to leave the country, but special permits were issued for travelling to Syria on business.

On the advice of well-disposed Government officials, the Jews did all they could to keep quiet and to escape notice. The wish to avoid any offence led the Jewish newspaper *Al-Alam al-Israeli* (The World of Israel) to change its name to Al-Salam (Peace). On the other hand, the Jewish community had to yield to the pressure of public opinion and to contribute considerable sums towards the Arab Palestine Fund, the total amount is estimated to be not less than £L300,000 (about £77,000). Yet things never reached the stage where they could not carry on their occupations, and the merchants among them were always able to keep their businesses running.

As soon as the fighting was over, the Lebanese Government was the first to restore normal conditions for the Jewish population. The ban on travelling abroad was lifted, and a number of senior Jewish officials who had been dismissed were reinstated, some even being promoted. Nine Jews who had fled to Lebanon from Iraq (where they had been sentenced to death *in absentia*) and three other Jews, who had previously lived in Palestine, were permitted to leave the country for Israel.

There is every evidence that with the return of normal relations with Israel, the Jewish minority in Lebanon will enjoy again its freedom, its full and equal rights, and the friendly relations with their neighbours which existed before the invasion of Palestine.